



ARIZONA LIVESTOCK MAY 2000

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RELEASE DATES FOR UPCOMING NATIONAL REPORTS

June 16 Milk Production
June 16 Cattle on Feed
June 23 Livestock Slaughter
June 23 Hogs and Pigs
June 29 Agricultural Prices

ARIZONA CATTLE ON FEED INVENTORY UP 33 PERCENT

On May 1, 2000, Arizona had 276,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 33 percent from a year ago and 1 percent from last month. Placements totaled 34,000 head, up 31 percent from April 1999. During April, 28,000 head were marketed, a decrease of 10 percent from last April.

On May 1, 2000, California had 405,000 head of cattle on feed for the slaughter market, up 8 percent from last May. Placements totaled 56,000 head, up 24 percent from April 1999. During April, 49,000 head were marketed, a decrease of 2 percent from April 1999.

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.91 million head on May 1, 2000. The inventory was 9 percent above May 1, 1999 and 12 percent above May 1, 1998. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.69 million, slightly below 1999 but 6 percent above 1998. Net placements were 1.60 million. During April, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 299,000, 600-699 pounds were 307,000, 700-799 pounds were 568,000, and 800 pounds and greater were 511,000. Marketings of fed cattle during April totaled 1.87 million, 4 percent below 1999 and 1 percent below 1998. April 2000 had two fewer weekdays than April 1999, which limited slaughter and affected the year-to-year relationship for marketings. Other disappearance totaled 90,000 during April, 13 percent below 1999 and 2 percent below 1998.

Cattle on feed May 1, 2000, in the historic 7 States for feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 9.36 million, up 9 percent from the previous year and 13 percent above May 1, 1998. Placements in feedlots during April totaled 1.45 million, slightly above 1999 and 7 percent above 1998. Marketings during April totaled 1.59 million, 5 percent below 1999 and down 1 percent from 1998. April 2000 had two fewer weekdays than April 1999, which limited slaughter and affected the year-to-year relationship for marketings. Other disappearance during April was 71,000 head, 9 percent below 1999 but 16 percent above 1998.

CATTLE ON FEED: NUMBER ON FEED, NUMBER PLACED ON FEED, NUMBER MARKETED, AND OTHER DISAPPEARANCE, 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS, BY MONTH, STATE, AND UNITED STATES 1999-2000

State 1/	Number on Feed 2/						Placements During April			Marketings During April			Other Disappearance During April 3/		
	April 1			May 1											
	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999
	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent	1,000 Head		Percent
*AZ	214	273	128	208	276	133	26	34	131	31	28	90	1	3	300
*CA	385	405	105	375	405	108	45	56	124	50	49	98	5	7	140
*CO	1,120	1,170	104	1,120	1,180	105	200	185	93	190	170	89	10	5	50
ID	280	320	114	280	315	113	57	49	86	43	43	100	14	11	79
*IA	360	375	104	350	370	106	42	40	95	50	44	88	2	1	50
*KS	2,080	2,280	110	1,980	2,230	113	350	370	106	420	390	93	30	30	100
*NE	2,180	2,310	106	2,120	2,240	106	340	320	94	380	380	100	20	10	50
NM	94	93	99	85	90	106	15	16	107	23	19	83	1	0	0
OK	345	380	110	325	360	111	62	70	113	80	88	110	2	2	100
SD	182	200	110	180	180	100	31	16	52	29	33	114	4	3	75
*TX	2,560	2,760	108	2,430	2,660	109	440	445	101	560	530	95	10	15	150
WA	179	* 211	* 118	179	213	119	33	38	115	30	35	117	3	1	33
Other															
Sts	415	405	98	400	390	98	47	46	98	60	59	98	2	2	100
US	10,394	* 11,182	108	10,032	10,909	109	1,688	1,685	100	1,946	1,868	96	104	90	87

* Revised.

1/ States indicated with an asterisk are the historic seven states preparing monthly estimates of cattle on feed.

2/ Cattle and calves on feed are animals for slaughter market being fed a ration of grain or other concentrates and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

3/ Includes death losses, movement from feedlots to pasture, and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

APRIL MILK PRODUCTION UP 3.7 PERCENT

Milk production in the 20 major States during April totaled 12.4 billion pounds, up 3.7 percent from production in these same States in April 1999. March revised production, at 12.7 billion pounds was up 3.7 percent from March 1999. The March revision represented a decrease of 0.1 percent or 15 million pounds from last months preliminary production estimate.

Production per cow in the 20 major States averaged 1,598 pounds for April, 44 pounds above April 1999.

The number of cows on farms in the 20 major States was 7.79 million head, 66,000 head more than April 1999 and 12,000 head more than March 2000.

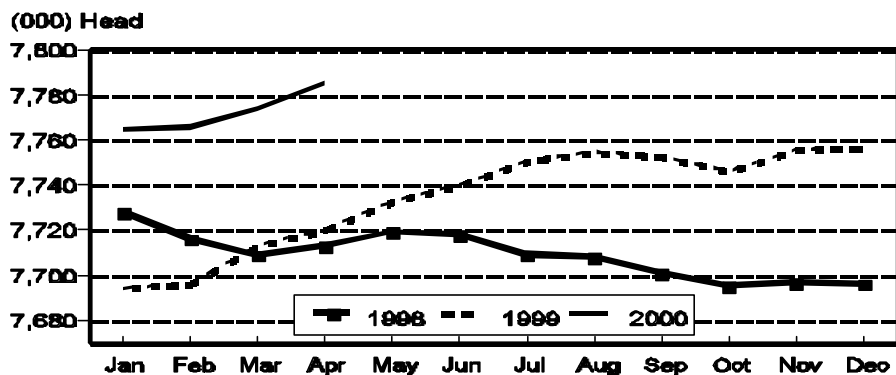
MILK COWS AND PRODUCTION: BY STATE, APRIL 1999-00

State	Milk Cows 1/		Milk Per Cow 2/		Milk Production 2/		
	1999	2000	1999	2000	1999	2000	2000 as % of 1999
	1,000 Head		Lbs		Million Lbs		Percent
AZ	132	138	2,075	2,080	274	287	4.7
CA	1,456	1,507	1,770	1,815	2,577	2,735	6.1
FL	160	158	1,435	1,455	230	230	
ID	312	337	1,640	1,700	512	573	11.9
IL	124	120	1,430	1,520	177	182	2.8
IN	136	146	1,360	1,440	185	210	13.5
IA	218	215	1,500	1,560	327	335	2.4
KY	134	133	1,110	1,220	149	162	8.7
MI	299	291	1,530	1,570	457	457	
MN	545	540	1,505	1,530	820	826	0.7
MO	160	157	1,290	1,330	206	209	1.5
NM	231	241	1,740	1,835	402	442	10.0
NY	700	696	1,460	1,480	1,022	1,030	0.8
OH	260	262	1,420	1,490	369	390	5.7
PA	615	615	1,545	1,590	950	978	2.9
TX	342	350	1,545	1,535	528	537	1.7
VT	161	160	1,420	1,495	229	239	4.4
VA	122	120	1,320	1,425	161	171	6.2
WA	248	246	1,870	1,915	464	471	1.5
WI	1,365	1,354	1,435	1,460	1,959	1,977	0.9
20-State Total	7,720	7,786	1,554	1,598	11,998	12,441	3.7

1/ Includes dry cows, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

Monthly Milk Cows 20 States



RED MEAT PRODUCTION DOWN

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.46 billion pounds in April, down 9 percent from the 3.82 billion pounds produced in April 1999.

April 1999 contained 22 weekdays and 4 Saturdays. April 2000 contained 20 weekdays and 5 Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.03 billion pounds, was 6 percent below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.78 million head, down 6 percent from 1999. The average live weight was up 1 pound from the previous year, at 1,202 pounds.

Veal production totaled 17.0 million pounds, 6 percent below the previous record low for April set a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 81 thousand head, down 17 percent from April 1999. The average live weight was 40 pounds above last year, at 343 pounds.

Pork production totaled 1.39 billion pounds, down 14 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 7.21 million head, 15 percent below 1999. The average live weight was 2 pounds above the previous year, at 262 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production, at 23.0 million pounds, was up 12 percent from April 1999. Sheep slaughter totaled 345 thousand head, 12 percent above last year. The average live weight was 136 pounds, unchanged from April a year ago.

January - April red meat production was 15.1 billion pounds, 1 percent lower than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 1 percent higher than last year, veal was 1 percent lower, pork was 4 percent lower, and lamb & mutton was down 1 percent.

COMMERCIAL RED MEAT PRODUCTION: ARIZONA AND U.S.

Class	April 1999	March 2000	April 2000	April 2000 as % of 1/	
				April 1999	March 2000
1,000 Lbs			Percent		
ARIZONA					
Total Red Meat 2/	29,500	33,800	31,000	105	92
UNITED STATES 3/					
Million Lbs					
Beef	2,155	2,300	2,026	94	88
Veal	18	20	17	94	84
Pork	1,629	1,700	1,394	86	82
Lamb and Mutton	21	24	23	112	98
Total Red Meat	3,822	4,044	3,460	91	86

1/ Percentage based on unrounded data.

2/ Breakdown by class not available, includes total beef, veal, pork, lamb, and mutton.

3/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

COMMERCIAL LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER: ARIZONA AND U.S. 1/

Species	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
	April 2000			January-April 2000		
	Number Slaughtered	Total Live Weight	Average Live Weight 2/	Number Slaughtered	Total Dressed Weight 3/	Average Live Weight 2/
	1,000 Head	1,000 Lbs	Lbs	1,000 Head	Million Lbs	Lbs
Cattle	41.9	51,739	1,234	11,797.3	8,679	1,218
Calves 4/				371.1	72	322
Hogs	0.6	135	234	32,228.6	6,219	262
Sheep 4/	0.1	7	103	1,263.8	86	138

1/ Includes slaughter under Federal inspection and other Commercial slaughter, excludes farm slaughter.

2/ Average live weights based on unrounded data.

3/ Based on packers' dressed weights and excludes farm slaughter.

4/ Not published to avoid disclosing individual operations but included in U.S. total.

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX INCREASES 2 POINTS

The preliminary All Farm Products Index of Prices Received in May was 102 based on 1990-92=100, up 2 points (2.0 percent) from the April index. The seasonal change in the mix of commodities farmers sell affects the overall index. Higher seasonal marketings of cantaloupes, grapes, sweet corn, broilers, and peaches more than offset the relatively lower marketings of cattle, milk, cotton, and asparagus. These marketing changes accounted for all of the May index increase. Higher prices for lettuce, broccoli, hogs, and hay offset price decreases for strawberries, eggs, cattle, and tomatoes.

Compared with May 1999, the All Farm Products Index was 4 points (4.1 percent) higher. Price increases from May 1999 for cattle,

lettuce, hogs, and soybeans more than offset price decreases for oranges, milk, cantaloupes, and strawberries.

PRICES PAID INDEX UNCHANGED

The May Index of Prices Paid for Commodities and Services, Interest, Taxes, and Farm Wage Rates (PPITW) was 119 percent of the 1990-92 average. The index was unchanged from April but 4 points (3.5 percent) above May 1999. Lower prices in May for feeder cattle, feeder pigs, feed concentrates, and insecticides were offset by higher prices for hay and forages and feed grains.

PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS: ARIZONA AND U.S., MAY 1999 AND 2000 AND APRIL 2000

Commodity	Unit	ARIZONA			UNITED STATES		
		May 1999 Entire Month	April 2000 Entire Month	May 2000 Mid-Month	May 1999 Entire Month	April 2000 Entire Month	May 2000 Mid-Month
Upland Cotton 1/	¢ Lb	---	---	---	0.550	0.460	0.459
All Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	4.22	2.57	2.56
Durum Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	4.73	2.89	2.82
Winter Wheat 3/	\$ Cwt	---	---	---	3.99	2.32	2.39
All Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	103.00	94.00	96.00	91.60	80.70	89.40
Alfalfa Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	103.00	94.00	97.00	95.70	84.50	93.90
Other Hay Baled 4/	\$ Ton	98.00	84.00	86.00	69.40	67.40	71.30
Grapefruit 5/	\$ Box	14.70	10.50	14.10	16.20	14.90	13.40
Oranges 5/	\$ Box	27.50	15.60	11.70	21.80	13.40	13.90
Lemons 5/	\$ Box	---	27.80	---	27.40	25.20	22.40
Tangerines 5/	\$ Box	17.90	15.90	7.84	15.30	23.10	22.40
Cows 6/	\$ Cwt	34.60	38.60	37.00	36.40	39.80	39.00
Steers and Heifers	\$ Cwt	64.70	72.40	71.40	65.20	75.20	73.20
Beef Cattle 7/	\$ Cwt	64.40	72.10	71.10	62.10	71.30	69.40
Calves	\$ Cwt	81.60	106.00	100.00	87.60	111.00	109.00
All Milk 8/	\$ Cwt	12.20	11.40	11.60	12.80	11.90	12.00

1/ Includes both spot and contract sales.

2/ Price not published to avoid disclosure of individual operations.

3/ Not available for Arizona.

4/ Mid-month.

5/ F.O.B. packed fresh Arizona box weights: Grapefruit 67 lbs., Lemons 76 lbs., Oranges 75 lbs., Tangerines 75 lbs.

6/ Beef cows and cull dairy cows sold for slaughter.

7/ "Cows" and "steers and heifers" combined.

8/ Preliminary: Before deductions for hauling. Includes quality, quantity and other premiums. Excludes hauling subsidies.

U.S. PRICE INDEX SUMMARY TABLE

INDEX 1990-92 = 100	1999		2000	
	April	May	April	May
Prices Received	96	98	100	102
Prices Paid	115	115	119	119
Ratio 1/	83	85	84	86

1/ Ratio of index of prices received by farmers to index of prices paid.